

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A lighting device, comprising:

a light source that illuminates an object of illumination, having first and second illuminating portions;

a reflecting member provided opposite said light source so as to direct a the first part of illuminating light portion emitted therefrom to the object of illumination; ~~and~~

said second illuminating light portion directly illuminating the object of illumination;
and

a light-blocking member provided between said light source and the object of illumination, and between said reflecting member and the object of illumination so as to block at least a part of both the first and second illuminating light portions ~~directed part of the illuminating light and a second part of the illuminating light which second part directly illuminates the object of illumination~~ with a certain ratio of a light-blocking rate for the first ~~directed part of the~~ illuminating light portion to a light-blocking rate for the second ~~directly illuminating portion part~~ of the illuminating light.

2. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said reflecting member is positioned so that a distance between said reflecting member to the object of illumination is less than a distance between said light source and the object of illumination.

3. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a light-transmitting member on which the object of illumination is placeable, the light-transmitting member being provided between said reflecting member and the object of illumination,

wherein said light-blocking member is provided to said light-transmitting member.

4. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said light-blocking member is held on said light-transmitting member and provided as part of said light-transmitting member.

5. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 4, wherein said light-blocking member is formed integrally with said light-transmitting member by printing.

6. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 4, wherein said light-blocking member is formed integrally with said light-transmitting member by performing surfacing processing thereon.

7. (Currently Amended): The lighting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the light-blocking rate for the second ~~directly illuminating~~ portion ~~part of the illuminating light~~ is greater than the light-blocking rate for the first ~~directed part of the illuminating~~ portion ~~light~~.

8. (Currently Amended): The lighting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said reflecting member is positioned so that the first ~~directed part of the illuminating~~ portion ~~light~~ and the second ~~directly illuminating~~ portion ~~part of the illuminating light~~ are balanced in quantity.

9. (Original): An image sensor, comprising:

a lighting device as set forth in claim 1;

a light-receiving element receiving light reflected from the object of illumination; and

a focusing lens condensing the light received from the object of illumination toward

said light-receiving element.

10. (Currently Amended): A lighting device, comprising:

light source means for illuminating an object of illumination, having first and second illuminating portions;

reflecting means provided opposite said light source for directing a the first part of illuminating light portion emitted therefrom to the object of illumination; ~~and~~

said second illuminating light portion directly illuminating the object of illumination;
and

light-blocking means provided between said light source and the object of illumination, and between said reflecting member and the object of illumination for blocking at least a part of both the first and second illuminating light portions ~~directed part of the illuminating light and a second part of the illuminating light which second part directly illuminates the object of illumination~~ with a certain ratio of a light-blocking rate for the first ~~directed part of the~~ illuminating light portion to a light-blocking rate for the second ~~directly illuminating portion~~ part of the illuminating light

11. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 10, wherein said reflecting means is positioned so that a distance between said reflecting means to the object of

illumination is less than a distance between said light source means and the object of illumination.

12. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 10, further comprising light-transmitting means on which the object of illumination is placeable, the light-transmitting means being provided between said reflecting means and the object of illumination, wherein said light-blocking means is provided to said light-transmitting means.

13. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said light-blocking means is held on said light-transmitting means and provided as part of said light-transmitting means.

14. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 13, wherein said light-blocking means is formed integrally with said light-transmitting means by printing.

15. (Original): The lighting device as claimed in claim 13, wherein said light-blocking means is formed integrally with said light-transmitting means by performing surfacing processing thereon.

16. (Currently Amended): The lighting device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the light-blocking rate for the second ~~directly~~ illuminating portion ~~part of the illuminating light~~ is greater than the light-blocking rate for the first ~~directed part of the~~ illuminating portion light.

17. (Currently Amended): The lighting device as claimed in claim 10,

wherein said reflecting means is positioned so that the first ~~directed part of the~~ illuminating portion ~~light~~ and the second ~~directly~~ illuminating portion ~~part of the illuminating~~ ~~light~~ are balanced in quantity.

18. (Original): An image sensor, comprising:

a lighting device as set forth in claim 10;

light-receiving means for receiving light reflected from the object of illumination; and

focusing means for condensing the light received from the object of illumination

toward said light-receiving means.

19. (Currently Amended): The lighting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the

light-blocking member is positioned so that the first ~~directed part of the~~ illuminating portion ~~light~~ and the second ~~directly~~ illuminating portion ~~part of the illuminating light~~ are balanced in quantity.

20. (Currently Amended): The lighting device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the

light-blocking means is positioned so that the first ~~directed part of the~~ illuminating portion ~~light~~ and the second ~~directly~~ illuminating portion ~~part of the illuminating light~~ are balanced in quantity.